



Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 16, 2015

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HACLA Awarded 40 HUD-VASH Project-Based Vouchers to House Homeless Veterans

The Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) today announced the agency was awarded 40 HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) project-based vouchers to house homeless and chronically homeless veterans. HACLA's total HUD-VASH voucher allocation is now 3,709, which provides more than \$30 million of rental assistance per year. With the increase in the HUD-VASH voucher allocation, HACLA will be able to increase the number of homeless and chronically homeless veterans housed in the City of Los Angeles.

The HUD-VASH project-based vouchers will provide rental subsidy to 40 homeless and chronically homeless veterans at the Silver Star Apartments, developed by A Community of Friends (ACOF), scheduled for completion in the summer of 2017. The newly constructed housing development will provide a wide range of targeted supportive services and programs needed to help veterans remain successfully housed in collaboration with the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, ACOF and other agencies. Project Based HUD-VASH vouchers are an important housing resource, especially in high cost, tight rental markets like Los Angeles, because they expand the base of permanent supportive housing by adding actual new units dedicated to housing homeless veterans.

"The project-based vouchers we've received today will not just provide shelter; they will expand our city's base of permanent supportive housing for homeless veterans who need our help," said Mayor Eric Garcetti. "Every extra voucher we receive from HUD puts us closer to ending veterans' homelessness. As we reflect this month upon the sacrifice so many men and women of our armed forces have made for this country, it is a particularly important time to remember our duty to give all our veterans the chance they deserve to get back on their feet."

Earlier this month, HACLA participated in a Veteran Stand Down event hosted by the VA of Greater Los Angeles. HACLA staff conducted on-site interviews and provided one-stop-shop services to the homeless veterans interested in obtaining a voucher that same day.

"I had the pleasure of meeting many people at the Stand Down event, including a former Sergeant in the Army, bound to a wheelchair. She talked about her challenges, living in and out of shelters and that the VASH voucher would save her life," said Douglas Guthrie, HACLA President and CEO. "She was overcome by the kindness and helpfulness of the HACLA staff. Hearing stories like this serves as a reminder that we are making a difference in people's lives and that is what really matters. But we need to do much more. HACLA is committed to working with our partners to meet the challenge of ending



veteran homelessness in our great city. I would like to thank HUD for their support in our efforts to solve this critical issue.”

About HACLA

The Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) was established in 1938 by City of Los Angeles Resolution No. 1241. HACLA has grown to become one of the nation’s largest and leading public housing authorities, providing the largest supply of quality affordable housing to residents of the City of Los Angeles.

